Shifting of offices of Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies from rented to the Government buildings

996. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the various offices under his Ministry/ Subordinate Offices/attached offices/ Departments are housed in rented buildings in Delhi and outside Delhi; if so, since when;

(b) the name of each office and the monthly rent of each building occupied by these offices along with the date of occupation;

(c) whether it is a fact that his Ministry does not propose to shift these offices from rented buildings to Government buildings; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in negative, what steps have been taken so far to shift these offices?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) to (d). The desired information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Mal-practices in the Air Cargo Warehouse

997. SHRI VISHVAJIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that various malpractices have crept into the working of the Air Cargo Warehouse of the Central Warehousing Corporation on the Palam-Gurgaon Road;

(b) what has been the approximate increase in the volume and value of goods handled by the Warehouse during the last three years; and

(c) what has been the extent of increase in staff, if any, during this period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) The working of the Air Cargo Warehouse of the Central Warehousing Corporation at Gurgaon Road, Palam has been satisfactory. However, some incidents of pilferage, theft etc. occur now and then. Appropriate action is taken by the Corporation in such cases.

(b) The number of packages handled at the Warehouse increased from 1.61 lakhs in 1980-81 to 4.09 lakhs in 1983-84. Information relating to value of goods handled at the Warehouse is not maintained by the Corporation.

(c) The number of employees at the Warehouse increased from 60 in March, 1981, to 111 in March, 1984.

Increase in the cost of wheat production

998. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that wheat prices have increased due to ban on flour mills to purchase wheat from the open market;

(b) whether it is also a fact that monopoly procurement of wheat by Government is inadequate to meet procurement requirements of the country and also deprives the farmers of proper prices for their wheat products; and

(c) whether Government propose to allow flour mills to buy wheat from the open market?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) No such report has been received.